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## **BIO-DATA**

### **AMB. HASSAN ARDO TUKUR, OFR**

1. Born on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of January 1957, **Amb. Hassan Ardo Tukur, MFR**, hails from Adamawa State of Nigeria. His primary, secondary and tertiary education between 1964 and 1980 were all in the northern part of the country resulting in a B.Sc. (Political Science) degree from the Bayero University, Kano.
2. Amb. Hassan Ardo Tukur started his pursuit of excellence in the mock/WASC examination and hard work during his NYSC Service at the Government College, Bida, Niger State where, owing to his outstanding performance and dedication he was appointed Chief Examiner for Government for the year 1980/81. This confidence he justified by working hard and his efforts saw the students passing in flying colours in their School Certificate Examinations for that Session and having overall scores of 98% for the School. It was a first for the school and this record is yet to be attained.
3. Amb. Hassan Ardo Tukur joined the Ministry of External Affairs in August 1981 and had several internal postings including Finance and Welfare Department and African Affairs Department. In 1984 to 1985 he was the Principal Protocol Officer to the Head of State, State House, Lagos. His external postings include Embassy of Nigeria, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia; Nigeria High Commission, London and Embassy of Nigeria, Malabo, Equatorial Guinea where he headed the Mission as Charge d'Affaires a.i. from January 1994 to November 1998. He was promoted Foreign Service Officer Grade I in January 2005 and served as a special assistant to the Honourable Minister of State for Foreign Affairs on his return to Headquarters from Malabo. In April 2002 Amb. Tukur was seconded to the Nigeria-Sao Tome and Principe Joint Development Authority (JDA) as Deputy Director, Office of the Chairman, and subsequently appointed as Executive Director (Finance and Administration) in the same Organisation.
4. Career milestones of Amb. Hassan Ardo Tukur include membership of the UN Election Team to Namibia that ensured SWAPO's victory to usher in Namibia's Independence. He was Charge d'Affaires a.i. of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Malabo, Equatorial Guinea where, among others, he **successfully guided negotiations on the Maritime Boundary Demarcation between Nigeria and Equatorial Guinea leading to the signing of a Treaty between the two countries as well as the**

unitization of Zafiro/Ekanga oil fields, which will yield revenue of over \$2 billion to Nigeria. This earned him a second National Honour from Equatorial Guinea along with other members of the negotiating team.

5. Amb. Hassan Ardo Tukur also actively participated in the negotiations leading to the signing of the Joint Development Zone (JDZ) Treaty between Nigeria and the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe (DRSTP). He was among the pioneer Directors who established the Nigeria-Sao Tome and Principe Joint Development Authority (JDA).
6. **Amb. Tukur is a member of National Boundary Commission (NBC) Technical Committee (TC) on boundary negotiations since 1989 to 2005.**
7. He was appointed Secretary, National Energy Council and Senior Special Assistant to Mr President on Energy Partnership in September 2007 until his present appointment, in June 2010, as the Principal Secretary to the President. He has recently been conferred with "Ambassador-in-Situ" by the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.
8. Amb. Tukur has been honoured by his country, in 1985, through a letter of commendation from the Head of State for patriotism and hard work, and by the Government of Equatorial Guinea, in 1998, as Commander of the Order of Independence – the highest honour given to any foreign diplomat – for his efforts towards improvement of cordial relations between his country and Equatorial Guinea. He was conferred with the National Honour of **Member of the Order of the Federal Republic (MFR)** in 2004 by the President; and **Officer of the Order of the Federal Republic (OFR)** in 2011.
9. Amb. Hassan Ardo Tukur speaks 7 languages, five of which are international.
10. He is married with children.



**Mustafa Chike-Obi**

**Mr. Mustafa Chike-Obi is the Managing Director/CEO for Asset Management Corporation of Nigeria (AMCON). He was previously founder and managing partner of Madison Park Advisors, a financial service advisory and consulting firm in New Jersey, U.S.A, specializing in hedge fund and private equity investment advice.**

**He has also held senior positions in various Wall Street firms including Goldman Sachs, Bear Stearns and Guggenheim Partners among others.**

**He graduated from University of Lagos with a First class degree in Mathematics and an MBA from Stanford University Graduate School of Business.**

## Fact Sheet: Nigerian Efforts To Defeat Boko Haram

### Background

- Boko Haram is an Islamist sect that has waged a violent campaign of terror against the Nigerian people and government since 2009. The terrorist group - like ISIS - aspires to create a fundamentalist Islamic state in central Africa.
- In recent months, Boko Haram has mimicked ISIS in the horrific practice of using children as suicide bombers, including a seven year-old girl.
- Boko Haram emerged in the early 2000s, advocating for the use of strict Islamic law in Nigeria. The name "Boko Haram" is often translated as "Western education is forbidden." While the group was responsible for several smaller acts of violence early on, the death of group founder Mohammed Yusuf in 2009 resulted in a splintered leadership that steered the group in a more radical direction.
- Conflict between Boko Haram and the Nigerian government has had a devastating impact in the country's Northern region since the conflict began in 2009: Over 13,000 people murdered in related violence and more than 1.6 million people displaced by the conflict between the group and the Nigerian government.<sup>1 2</sup>
- The terrorist group grabbed international headlines in April 2014 when a group of gunmen broke into an all-girls school. The gunmen lured approximately 300 schoolgirls outside before setting fire to the school building and forcing the girls onto trucks. Despite efforts by the Nigerian government and the international community, the whereabouts of most of these girls is still unknown—it is believed many have been married off to Boko Haram members.
- Boko Haram is primarily based in remote parts of Nigeria's North East Zone, which has made it exceedingly difficult for military counter assaults to be successfully executed.

### Nigeria's Response to Boko Haram

#### Regional Coalition Finds Success

- In February 2015, Nigerian forces joined with troops from adjacent nations in a regional counteroffensive against Boko Haram. The force comprises 8,700 troops from Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Benin and has a mandate from the African Union.

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/regions/op-eds/2015/guehenno-10-wars-to-watch-in-2015.aspx>

<sup>2</sup> <http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/nigerian-leader-launches-election-bid-amid-troubles-28082796>

- From the start, this counteroffensive has been a success:
  - Nigeria, Chad and Cameroon have all launched airstrikes against Boko Haram. The airstrikes have often worked in tandem with efforts from ground troops to retake territory from Boko Haram.
  - On February 23<sup>rd</sup>, Nigerian forces negotiated a minefield with over 1,000 mines to recapture the key border town of Baga. Baga had been the site of a January massacre the BBC said is "regarded as the worst attack of Boko Haram's six-year insurgency," and resulted in the death of as many as two thousand Nigerians.<sup>3</sup>
- Despite President Jonathan's request for American combat troops, none have yet been deployed. However, the United States has begun providing training and technical support to the coalition.
  - Specifically, communications equipment and intelligence are being shared with the forces fighting Boko Haram.
    - New communications capabilities will increase the ability of African forces to coordinate their efforts and share information
  - The RIOS system provided to African forces enables soldiers in the field to send photos and data immediately to faraway command sites. This information is matched with precise locations of personnel to give commanders a timely update on battlefield conditions.<sup>4</sup>

#### *Military and Diplomatic Responses*

- To combat the rise of Boko Haram, President Jonathan ordered the Nigerian government to adopt emergency powers in the three States in which Boko Haram operates across northeast Nigeria. The adoption of emergency powers gave the military increased latitude in their fight against Boko Haram.
- President Jonathan has pressed the United States for **military and intelligence aid**:
  - President Jonathan has requested American combat troops alongside military advisors to bolster efforts to defeat Boko Haram.<sup>5</sup>
  - To better inform efforts to defeat Boko Haram, envoys of Nigeria's government requested "information on Boko Haram activities derived from intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance overflights of northeastern Nigeria."<sup>6</sup>
  - Nigeria also requested a variety of military equipment, including mine-resistant armored personnel vehicles, night vision goggles and communications equipment.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-31568055>

<sup>4</sup> [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2015/02/17/boko-haram-us-army\\_n\\_6702218.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2015/02/17/boko-haram-us-army_n_6702218.html)

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.wsj.com/articles/nigerian-president-wants-u-s-troops-to-fight-boko-haram-1423850893>

<sup>6</sup> <http://abcnews.go.com/Blotter/nigeria-requested-us-intel-military-gear-fight-terror/story?id=23662022&singlePage=true>

- Rallying support to the fight against Boko Haram, while attending a May 2014 summit in Paris, President Jonathan stood with leaders from Chad, Cameroon, Niger and Benin in pledging to wage “total war” on Boko Haram.<sup>7</sup> He doubled down on these remarks in August 2014, when at a summit of American and African leaders in Washington, DC he spoke “about the need for more effective global action to counter terrorism.”<sup>8</sup>
- Like ISIS, the threat posed by Boko Haram is both regional and international.
  - Increasingly, Boko Haram is drawing its finances, armaments and foot soldiers from neighboring countries, like Cameroon.<sup>9</sup> Boko Haram has also expanded operations into Cameroon. Cameroon’s government responded with air strikes in late December in an attempt to push back Boko Haram.<sup>10</sup>
  - Conflicts in Libya, Mali and the Central African Republic have created what the Nigerian government terms a “corridor of uncertainty” that helps drive key resources to Boko Haram.<sup>11</sup>
- Recognizing the shifting nature of the fight against Boko Haram, President Jonathan called for international action to quickly end the conflict in Libya, as opposed to limiting the response to only to Nigerian forces.
  - In January 2013, President Jonathan also dispatched 600 Nigerian troops to help lead a UN Security Council-mandated intervention force to bring peace to Mali. This turned back an Islamist-affiliated insurgency affiliated with Boko Haram and eliminating a potential training ground for Boko Haram.<sup>12 13</sup>
  - President Jonathan has also secured several types of aid from the United States. Military and civilian advisors were deployed in May 2014 and the American intelligence has provided information on Boko Haram’s activities. The US State and Defense Departments have launched a **\$40 million fund** for Nigeria and neighboring countries to counter Boko Haram.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/may/17/west-african-countries-must-unite-fight-boko-haram-nigeria>

<sup>8</sup> [http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/in-nigeria-campaign-against-boko-haram-militants-brings-fears-of-military-excesses/2014/08/07/2308b700-1db0-11e4-ae54-0cfe1f974f8a\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/in-nigeria-campaign-against-boko-haram-militants-brings-fears-of-military-excesses/2014/08/07/2308b700-1db0-11e4-ae54-0cfe1f974f8a_story.html)

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.tribune.com.ng/quicklinkss/politics/Item/23408-how-boko-haram-recruits-members-and-finance-its-operations>

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2889894/Cameroon-says-fights-Boko-Haram-attacks-kills-41-militants.html>

<sup>11</sup> 2015: The Challenge of Boko Haram. Henry Omoregie, Scholars for Justice, Abuja

<sup>12</sup> <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/africaandindianocean/mali/9802010/France-sends-more-troops-to-Mali-as-UN-backs-intervention.html>

<sup>13</sup> [http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/africa/nigerian-islamist-militants-return-from-mali-with-weapons-skills/2013/05/31/d377579e-c628-11e2-9cd9-3b9a22a4000a\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/africa/nigerian-islamist-militants-return-from-mali-with-weapons-skills/2013/05/31/d377579e-c628-11e2-9cd9-3b9a22a4000a_story.html)

<sup>14</sup> <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2014/10/14/fact-sheet-us-efforts-assist-nigerian-government-its-fight-against-boko>

- Diplomatically, America has also supported the Nigerian government by formally designating Boko Haram as a terrorist organization, isolating their leaders. The American and Nigerian governments worked closely together to push the United Nations to designate Boko Haram as a terrorist organization. That designation took effect in May 2014, and prohibits arms sales, freezes assets, restricts movement and encourages regional cooperation.<sup>15</sup>

*Economic Development as Response*

- President Jonathan has initiated several efforts to ensure long-term stability and development in impoverished areas, which have been targeted by Boko Haram.
  - Victims Support Fund
    - This fund is intended to provide “financial and material support to individuals who have lost their source of livelihood” in the course of Boko Haram’s attacks. **President Jonathan has personally raised over \$490 million for the fund.**<sup>16</sup>
  - Presidential Initiative for the North East
    - This economic development program aims to improve infrastructure and economic growth in North East Nigeria.

*Defeating Boko Haram through access to education*

- Through the Safe School Initiative, the Jonathan Administration has taken major strides to provide security for students and schools in the violence-plagued North. This initiative will provide **\$120 million** in funding from governmental, private sector and international development sources.
- To further cut into Boko Haram’s recruitment base and bolster economic growth, President Jonathan developed the **Almajiri System of Education**. This system **integrates basic Western education alongside Islamic education**. Aimed at improving the education system in the North, Almajiri schools are critical tools in combating religious fanaticism and providing a worthwhile education.
- To date, **125 Almajiri schools** have been built, with **275 more planned**.
- **BACKGROUND:** *The Economist* spoke to the need for a reformed school system and the merits of Almajiri schools:

“Today these institutions are unregulated and only the poorest enroll in them. Too often, *mallams* [teachers] are untrained and incapable of providing a decent level of religious, let alone secular, education. Instead, they milk their pupils for cash. The government

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid*

<sup>16</sup> <http://www.forbes.com/sites/mfonobongnsehe/2014/08/01/africas-richest-man-aliko-dangote-tony-elumelu-others-raise-400-million-for-terror-victims/>



estimates that there are 9 million...children... Some are as young as four when they are sent away from home. Poor and often illiterate, these boys make easy pickings as recruits for Boko Haram..."

"Aware of the problem, the government has poured millions of dollars into building over 100 *almajiri* schools with a more modern curriculum in northern states, so that students can get a traditional Koranic education alongside Western-style classes in reading, maths and science, plus vocational training."<sup>17</sup>

<sup>17</sup> <http://www.economist.com/news/middle-east-and-africa/21608809-trying-teach-children-not-be-extremists-mixing-modern-and>

### Fact Sheet: Nigeria's Economic Success

- Under President Jonathan, Nigeria surpassed South Africa as ***the continent's largest economy*** (announced April 2014). Nigeria's GDP totaled \$510B in 2013 - compared to South Africa's \$370B. [See *The Economist* <http://www.economist.com/news/leaders/21600685-nigerias-suddenly-supersized-economy-indeed-wonder-so-are-its-still-huge>].
- President Jonathan has ***diversified Nigeria's economy*** to support other sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing and telecommunications as part of a strategy to move away from sole dependence on the oil industry.
- Under President Jonathan, Nigeria ***emerged from the recession faster and stronger*** than its neighbors. The global economic crisis was peaking when President Jonathan came to office. His steps shored up the nation's banking sector and ***stimulated job growth*** to put the country on better economic footing faster.
- President Jonathan has made ***job creation a priority***. In May 2014, Nigeria hosted the World Economic Forum on Africa, which brought nearly 1,000 regional and global leaders to the nation to discuss job creation and innovative strategies to reduce poverty.

### Key Reforms

- President Jonathan has implemented reforms that have dropped Nigeria's deficit to GDP ratio by nearly two-thirds. In 2009, the country's deficit stood at 3.3% of Nigeria's GDP; by 2012, it was down to just over 1%.
- Additional reforms include:
  - Streamlining the tax collection process and diversifying revenue sources.
  - Creation of a Sovereign Wealth Fund to help Nigeria weather economic downturns.
  - Increasing the financial stability and capitalization of Nigerian banks – hit hard by the global financial crisis – and increasing access to banking and other financial services for more Nigerians. In fact, ***8 of the 9 distressed banks were saved*** by the Jonathan Administration's moves.
    - From December 2010 to March 2014, the average capital adequacy ratio, a key indicator of the stability of banks, rose from 4.03% to 16.7% - higher than the global threshold of 10%.
- President Jonathan has met the challenge faced by the country's energy needs at a time of high population growth by ***increasing the competitiveness of the marketplace***. [The Guardian <http://allafrica.com/stories/201412160624.html>].

#### Economic Diversification and Stability

- Oil revenue is the biggest contributor to Nigeria's economy. Given oil's volatility, President Jonathan quickly recognized the need to ***diversify the economy to better withstand shifts in oil prices.***
  - In two years, President Jonathan increased government revenues from non-oil sources by ***50 percent***. In 2011, only 20% of government revenues came from non-oil sources; by 2013, that figure had risen to 30%.
  - The non-oil sector has grown by an average of 8% in recent years under the Jonathan Administration's leadership.
  - Jonathan is implementing the Government and Donor Fund for Agriculture Finance in Nigeria, a ***\$100M program aimed at boosting the agriculture sector.***
- The Jonathan Administration created 1.6 million new jobs in 2013, alone.
- President Jonathan established a job creation board in late 2014 with the goal of creating 3 million jobs over a 12-month period.
- Under President Jonathan's tenure, Nigeria went from becoming the largest importer of rice in West Africa to ***its largest exporter of rice.***
- President Jonathan has worked diligently with the leaders of other nations to ***form trade agreements that will further diversify Nigerian economy.***
  - This includes a major liberalization of trade relations with Kenya and the formation of a trade council with France.
- Inflation has plummeted under President Jonathan's policies. Between May 2010 - May 2014, the inflation rate dropped from 12.9% to 8%.
- President Jonathan has promoted burgeoning industries in Nigeria such as the film industry, which alone generates nearly ***\$600M annually and employs 1 million Nigerians.***
- In 2014, President Jonathan's government undertook the badly needed step of accurately calculating Nigeria's GDP — a process called "rebasing" — something that had not been done in 24 years, according to *The Economist*.

#### Accountability/Transparency

- President Jonathan is the first president in Nigeria's history to sign a Performance Management Contract with his ministers, ***allowing for heightened monitoring and oversight*** - giving the public a sense of trust in governmental and economic bodies.
  - Ministers present the scorecards from their evaluation to the public for its review.
- President Jonathan delivered a comprehensive "Midterm Report" on the status of his campaign promises, including his track record on the economy, so that the ***public could gauge his performance and hold him accountable***.

### Nigeria's Successful Ebola Response and Containment Strategy

Immediately following the first documented case of Ebola in Nigeria (July 2014), President Goodluck Jonathan's Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH) implemented a response strategy focused on **treatment, containment and education**. Critical pieces of these efforts continue to be in place to ensure the safety of the people of Nigeria.

The government managed a massive effort, coordinating with state, federal and international partners to ensure cases were reported, patients were monitored and that the public was protected. While a national Ebola response plan existed, it had never been implemented, and as a result the Nigerian government faced unforeseen challenges. Despite these obstacles, **Nigeria has successfully contained the Ebola virus.**

As a result of its aggressive and comprehensive approach, Nigeria experienced only **8 deaths out of 19 confirmed Ebola cases** – compared to the nearly **8,000 deaths in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea**. [SOURCE: Nigerian Federal Ministry of Health. *Ebola Virus Disease Response: Report on the Nigerian Experience*. December 2014].

#### Treatment/Management

Nigeria effectively managed the confirmed and suspected cases in both Lagos (Lagos state) and Port Harcourt (Rivers state). These successes can be attributed, in large part, to the government's **early decision to take responsibility** for responding to this crisis and **being nimble in its efforts**. At both the federal and state levels, the government created incentives for the doctors, nurses and other high-risk individuals necessary to treat patients and prevent the spread of this deadly disease.

- Immediately following the first confirmed case of Ebola in Nigeria, an Ebola Emergency Operations Center (EEOC) was established to manage the response under the leadership of the Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH) and the Nigeria Center for Disease Control (NCDC). They partnered with the Lagos State government and technical partners.
- The EEOC comprised a number of teams working on different aspects of the response activities, including coordination and administration, case management, infection control and psychosocial support, epidemiology, social mobilization, monitoring points of entry, and logistics.
- The EEOC is led by an Incident Manager who is accountable to both the Minister of Health and the Project Director of the NCDC. The Incident Manager provides oversight and leadership toward the overarching goal of containing the Ebola outbreak in Nigeria.
  - The EEOC model in Nigeria is innovative – it is not a fixed or bureaucratic structure. For example, the national EEOC was established in Lagos, as this was the epicenter of the outbreak. When the outbreak occurred in Port Harcourt, the national EEOC moved to Port Harcourt to focus on establishing the same response process it had previously established in Lagos, where the Deputy Incident Manager remained to steer affairs there.

[SOURCE: Nigerian Federal Ministry of Health. *Ebola Virus Disease Response: Report on the Nigerian Experience*. December 2014].

#### Coordination

From the start, the government of Nigeria has worked closely with key partners on the response, including the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Doctors Without Borders. The collaboration with these partners has proven to be a **critical piece of the successful response** because these organizations were able to leverage their comparative advantage while transferring knowledge and skills.

- In addition to this, the Incident Manager ensures that WHO, CDC, UNICEF and MSF, along with the Deputy Incident Managers and other Team Leads, form a part of a Strategy Group that meets daily and supports him in making policy decisions and removing bottlenecks that creep up daily. This innovative model has been very efficient.

#### Early Detection

##### Tracking

Every contact of the Ebola patients in Lagos and Port Harcourt was traced, provided thermometers and monitored in person during a 21-day period, after which individuals were cleared of having contracted the disease. This aggressive approach has been a critical element of Nigeria's containment strategy.

- In Lagos and Rivers State, contacts were visited on a daily basis by trained personnel who monitored their condition for early signs and symptoms of Ebola.
- The follow-up of identified contacts in Lagos has been consistently high, with approximately 90% of contacts seen on a daily basis.
- Suspected cases identified through contact tracing were brought to the case management team for further evaluation within an hour of detection.
- Tracing teams were aided by the use of smartphones, which were used by workers on the front lines to register and monitor all contacts. Contacts that develop symptoms automatically trigger messages and alerts to the team as well as the case management team for immediate action. New officers and volunteers who join the contact tracing teams are trained by the data management/e-health teams to use the phones to report on the contacts. The reports are received in real time at the EEOC and reviewed. Any alerts requiring action (e.g. contacts with fever of 38°C or above or with any two of the other symptoms in the standard case definition) are responded to within one hour by the Swift Action Team (SWAT) of the Epidemiology and Contact Tracing Team.

##### Screening

Because the initial case in Nigeria was an imported case that traveled by air, the EEOC immediately **mobilized border point screenings for both air and land points of entry.** For Port

Harcourt, seaports are more critical than land borders, and this has been factored in the Port Harcourt response.

- Screening is conducted at all border points with increased capacities for isolation of possible patients and their rapid transfer to isolation wards in both Lagos and Port Harcourt. Training at points of entry focused on how to identify contacts, early symptoms for suspected and probable Ebola cases, and how to prevent such cases from travelling through the point of entry.

[SOURCE: Nigerian Federal Ministry of Health. *Ebola Virus Disease Response: Report on the Nigerian Experience*. December 2014].

### Education

Information management, communication and social mobilization were at the heart of the rapid response to the current Ebola outbreak in Nigeria.

- Social Mobilization, Communications and Health Promotion teams were created with the strategic goal of reducing the risk of transmission of Ebola to zero level by addressing risky behavioral and cultural practices that could propagate the transmission of Ebola in communities.
- Among the teams' responsibilities is providing complete and correct information to the public in order to assuage panic and rumors, and to limit misinformation and misunderstanding concerning Ebola.
- Nigeria's education strategy was multi-faceted and far-reaching:
  - **House-to-House:** House-to-house interpersonal communication has been conducted to ensure that households are educated on, first, why they must report to a health facility with any sign or symptom of Ebola; and second, on why they should not discriminate against those affected by Ebola. During these interactions with households, the teams also are specifically focusing on teaching proper hand washing skills and re-enforcing hygiene messages.
  - **Mass Media:** Public health physicians on the team have appeared on national and local live radio and television broadcasts to educate the public on Ebola. Public announcements have been made on radio, television and in national, regional and local publications in Lagos and Port Harcourt. The team also provides public service announcements (PSAs) to local stations, as well as the airport, and monitors all media coverage on Ebola for prompt correction and modifications. In addition to these efforts, Nigerian officials have held media briefings, press conferences and daily media briefings.
  - **Social/Digital Media:** A dedicated website for easy information access on Ebola is still running ([www.Ebolaalert.org](http://www.Ebolaalert.org)). Live chats are also handled through this website and a mobile app ([Ebolacheckup.Ebolaalert.org](http://Ebolacheckup.Ebolaalert.org)). Information is also provided through social media channels including Twitter (@Ebolaalert) and Facebook ([facebook.com/Ebolaalert](https://facebook.com/Ebolaalert)).

- **Community Engagement:** Through mass gatherings and community outreach efforts, the team has engaged local stakeholders in education efforts including: entertainers/celebrities, educators (including all school principals), religious leaders, traditional rulers, youth leaders, women's organisations, road transport workers, hoteliers, oil and gas workers, healthcare professionals and many others.
  - A community sensitization tour of all 23 Local Government Areas (LGAs) led by the Commissioner for Health has also been launched. To date, 5 LGAs have been reached. Ebola Response Committees have been inaugurated at each LGA and more rallies and road shows are being planned in partnership with stakeholders.
- **Dedicated Help Lines:** A dedicated toll-free EBOLA Helpline (800-EBOLA-HELP) has been established since the beginning of the outbreak and the efficiency of this call center is being improved daily.
- **Training:** General and private medical practitioners, nurses, industrial health workers, Red Cross volunteers and other cadres of medical personnel have been trained on Ebola using standard protocols and equipment. More training is planned to strengthen and improve response.
- This strategy is geared towards two goals: 1) Preventing a community outbreak; and 2) Reducing stigma and discrimination, which can be a barrier to successful implementation of the containment strategy.

[SOURCE: Nigerian Federal Ministry of Health. *Ebola Virus Disease Response: Report on the Nigerian Experience*. December 2014].

#### **Preparing for Future Issues**

Information from two studies completed in Lagos are informing further social mobilization and healthcare worker training efforts.

Findings of the studies, presented to the EEOC, showed gaps in knowledge and practice among the community members. There were also preparedness deficiencies in most of the health care facilities, mostly related to infection control, training and coordinating structure for Ebola response.

The first study was community-based research that assessed the knowledge, attitude and practices (KAP) of community members regarding Ebola. The second was a health facility-based study that assessed the level of preparedness of health facilities to manage Ebola, as well as assessing KAP of health care workers. A third operational study on the assessment of psychosocial status of Ebola cases and contacts is at the final stage of completion.



### Nigeria's Expanded Education Opportunities

#### A Reform-Minded Leader

- Upon entering office, President Jonathan made it a top priority to implement reforms that would expand access to schools and increase the quality of education in Nigeria.
  - President Jonathan has maintained that a better national education program is the best way to lift many of the country's citizens out of poverty.
- Recognizing Nigeria's biggest educational problems – including poor performing schools and low literacy and participation rates – President Jonathan set a bold, ambitious goal to get the country's nearly 11 million out-of-school children back into the education system, particularly in the impoverished Northern region. This effort is also aimed at raising the country's literacy rate, which has for years ranked among the lowest countries.
  - To that end, President Jonathan has built **9 new universities** and **1,200 new primary and secondary schools** in the three Northern Zones.

#### Combating Boko Haram Through Education

- President Jonathan developed the concept of the Almajiri System of Education, which integrates basic Western education alongside Islamic education. Aimed at improving the education system in the North, Almajiri schools are critical tools in combating religious fanaticism and providing a worthwhile education.
    - *The Economist* on the need for a reformed school system and the merits of Almajiri schools: "Today these institutions are unregulated and only the poorest enroll in them. Too often, *mallams* [teachers] are untrained and incapable of providing a decent level of religious, let alone secular, education. Instead, they milk their pupils for cash. The government estimates that there are 9 million...children... Some are as young as four when they are sent away from home. Poor and often illiterate, these boys make easy pickings as recruits for Boko Haram..."
- "Aware of the problem, the government has poured millions of dollars into building over 100 *almajiri* schools with a more modern curriculum in northern states, so that students can get a traditional Koranic education alongside Western-style classes in reading, maths and science, plus vocational training."<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.economist.com/news/middle-east-and-africa/21608809-trying-teach-children-not-be-extremists-mixing-modern-and>

- Through its Safe School Initiative, the Jonathan Administration has also taken major strides to provide security for students and schools in the violence-plagued North. This initiative is expected to provide \$120 million in funding from governmental, private sector and international development sources.

#### Accomplishments

- As a result of President Jonathan's reforms, school enrollment have steadily risen in the Northern Zones.
  - Primary and secondary education rates up by 33% in North Central Zone (where pre-primary enrollment rates are up by 113%), 22% in North East Zone and 4.5% in the North West Zone.
- Literacy rates have risen in several states.
  - Notably, up 7% in North Central Zone.
- Thought leaders across the world have praised President Jonathan's efforts to replace the nation's antiquated (and often radical) school system with Almajiri schools so that students may receive a more holistic education.<sup>2</sup>
  - From a report published by Usmanu Danfodiyo University in Nigeria: *"...government came in to rescue the deteriorating state of the system with the modern system, thereby making the beneficiaries (Almajirai) learn both the Almajiri education and the modern education system simultaneously."* (emphasis added).

<sup>2</sup>[http://www.academia.edu/3271725/Problems\\_and\\_Prospects\\_of\\_Almajiri\\_Education\\_in\\_northern\\_Nigeria](http://www.academia.edu/3271725/Problems_and_Prospects_of_Almajiri_Education_in_northern_Nigeria)

## President Jonathan's New Era of Transparency and Accountability

### Accountability and Transparency Reforms

- President Jonathan is the first president in Nigeria's history to institute a Performance Management Contract with his ministers, allowing for ***heightened monitoring and oversight*** - giving the public a sense of trust in governmental and economic bodies.
  - Ministers present the scorecards from their evaluations to the public for review.
- President Jonathan delivered a comprehensive "Midterm Report" on the status of his campaign promises, including his track record on the economy, so that the ***public could gauge his performance and hold him accountable***. Despite weak forecasts for Nigeria's economy early in President Jonathan's term, his Administration delivered GDP growth of over 7% in the months leading up to the report.
- As a result of President Jonathan's anti-corruption efforts, Nigeria's ranking on Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index of 2014 ***improved considerably***; its score rose by 8% year-to-year, placing Nigeria 8 spots higher on the list when compared to the 2013 rankings.
  - The index's rankings are determined by prominent international organizations such as the World Bank and Freedom House, which submit an annual survey indicating their perceptions of each individual country's level of corruption.
- **Freedom of Information Act:** Signed by President Jonathan in 2011 to increase transparency in governance and grant the public unfettered access to information about government activities. The law gives "citizens access to public records and government agencies seven days to produce the information requested. The law also makes it a crime to destroy public records."<sup>1</sup>
- **Stamped out corruption in agriculture sector.** President Jonathan instituted a program that registered 14 million farmers with the Ministry of Agriculture to root out theft and fraud by connecting the farmer directly with the product through an e-wallet system. Prior to this program, the Fertilizer Procurement and Distribution department of the agricultural sector used to be a major source of corruption with billions of dollars in losses because middlemen inflated costs and supplied subpar products to Nigeria's farmers. Nigeria has ***saved close to \$2 billion*** that would have gone into the pockets of corrupt officials and middlemen.<sup>2</sup>

### Fair and Free Elections

<sup>1</sup> <https://freedomhouse.org/article/freedom-information-bill-signed-law#.VLQ6eGTF-Ac>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.vanguardngr.com/2014/12/corruption-index-nigerias-improvement-confirms-jonathans-anti-corruption-fight/>

- Upon taking office, President Jonathan **reconstituted the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC)** and appointed as its chair, a highly respected university professor and human rights activist, Professor Attahiru Jega.<sup>3</sup> Prior to the Jonathan Administration, fraud, bribery and corruption were commonplace in Nigeria's electoral system.
- President Jonathan has made the INEC an independent body and allowed it to conduct its duties without interference.
  - Transparency International, a non-governmental anti-corruption organization, has ***praised the Jonathan Administration for weeding out electoral corruption*** and for running successful state and national elections since 2011.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>3</sup> <http://goodluck.org.ng/index.php/electoral-reforms>

<sup>4</sup> <http://sunnewsonline.com/new/?p=93831>